



## The @ symbol and how it is taking over all social media

Last year, the @-mention migrated beyond Twitter and into online conversation everywhere. The "@" symbol used to be just for email. Then it was for Twitter too. Now, it transcends networks. It was left off from early typewriters and rarely noticed on later devices, but that started to change in the early 1970s when a computer engineer thought to use the character as a connector in email addresses.

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## Mobile-App Use Increased 115% in 2013

If you used mobile apps more often last year than in any previous year, you're not alone. Mobile-app use increased 115% in 2013. The largest surge was in use of messaging and social apps, up 203% in 2013. News and magazine apps saw the smallest increase of just 31%...

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## Kindle Vending Machine Shows How Amazon Could Take Over the World

Instead of running a big booth on the show floor or unloading a bombastic keynote speech, Amazon made its presence known at this week's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas with decidedly more subtlety. It wedged a vending machine in between a Wells Fargo ATM and a scuffed-up door at the Las Vegas airport.

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## Pizza Hut Sold \$1 Million in Pizzas Through Xbox 360 App

Pizza Hut sold \$1 million worth of pizzas through its online delivery app on the Xbox 360 game console in the first four months the app was live, Polygon reported Thursday. Pizza Hut launched its Xbox 360 app in April 2013, allowing customers to order pizzas and sides from the comfort of their gaming consoles.

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## Audi Has Car Headlights That Shoot Laser Beams

Halogen, Xenon and LED car headlights are considered cutting-edge. But that's not forward-looking enough for Audi, which plans to enhance headlamps with — wait for it — lasers. Audi estimates that laser technology doubles the viewing distance when using high beams:

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## 5 Kinds of Deal Seekers and What They Mean to Your Business

While many consumers are looking for the best deal, not everyone buys on price alone, new research shows. A store's environment, the brands it carries, convenience and service all were deemed more important than price for the majority of consumers surveyed

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## Sony's 4K Camcorder: A YouTuber's Dream

YouTubers rejoice! Sony unveiled its newest 4K Handicam at this year's CES conference, making high quality video a possibility for filmmakers on tighter budgets. So how does it fare against the competition?

The new 4K Handycam is also significantly more compact than the previous model — Sony says it's 46% smaller and 67% lighter

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## Will You Be Buying Stuff From Your TV in 2014? Probably Not

This year, the innovator is H&M. The clothing chain plans to let some viewers — those with Samsung Smart TVs — use their remote controls to buy items from David Beckham's Bodywear line of underwear. The ad tech firm behind the effort — Delivery Agent — believes that 2014 will be a breakthrough for so-called "t-commerce" (that is, TV-based transactions.)

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## What's not so hot...in five words Auto response on twitter by American Airlines was a #Fail

A Twitter user noticed that American Airlines' Twitter account had been responding to customers in a rather unusual way. Instead of addressing complaints fielding in its direction, the airline appeared to be thanking every consumer for its support — with the exact same message.

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